

Parable of the Awesome Father

Luke 15 (about Prodigal because we identify with him?)

1-3 audience: sinners, religious leaders

attitude: drew near to hear (Lk 19:10 Zacchaeus), complained - treatment of sinners

message: **One** Parable in three parts

4-7 Sheep lost **Outside** the flock (sinners)

Individual Value (Love) - History: class, ethnicity, slavery, gender

Extreme Joy in repentance - God's attitude

8-10 Coin lost **Inside** the house (religious leaders)

same Value and Joy

What is the same or different about being lost inside or outside?

11-12 both sons given their inheritance at younger son's request

voluntary love requires choice - doesn't diminish His love, reveals His love

13-19 Prodigal: diminished stature (performance) - doesn't understand the Father's Love

20-24 Father: Anticipation, Love, Acceptance (son), Honor, Joyful Celebration

25-30 Brother: Angry (Rom 2:4), Performance - doesn't understand the Father's Love

Performance mentality leads to competition, jealousy, anger, deception

can't accurately express His Heart to sinners (call to performance, not acceptance)

31-32 Father: Point of the Parable of the Awesome Father

its about Being With Him, not Doing For Him

He already gave Everything, nothing more to earn (Love)

(Jn 14:21-23) ²¹“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

²²Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?” ²³Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word;

and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

we Obey because we Love (Trust), not to earn His Love

He is always the initiator of Love (1 Jn 4:19), we can only respond

keeping His commandments is our love response, expression of desire to be with Him

if we don't, His Love never changes, only our understanding and experience of it

(Jn 14:6) Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

Jesus the Doorway to Sonship

(Ep 1:5-6) ⁵having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. (family)